

Application No. 09/414,483
Amendment dated August 13, 2003
Reply to Office Action of June 3, 2003

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 - 23 (cancelled)

Claims 24 and 28 (previously added):

24. In a combination in a building structure,

a vertical length of lumber; (A)

a horizontal length of lumber and (B)

a metal corner connector interconnecting said vertical and horizontal lengths;

said corner connector comprising an intermediate section, at least one lateral flange projecting horizontally from said intermediate section and a vertical flange projecting upwardly from said intermediate section;

said vertical and horizontal lengths having ends in abutment with said intermediate sections and in the face-to-face contact with said vertical and the lateral flanges, respectively.

28. A corner connector for use in building construction, comprising an intermediate section, at least one lateral flange projecting horizontally from said intermediate section and a vertical flange projecting upwardly from said intermediate section.

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Claims 25 - 27 (currently amended):

102 451,596
 25. A combination as claimed in claim 24, wherein said intermediate section is box-shaped.

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 26. A combination as claimed in claim 24, wherein said lateral flange is one of a pair of lateral flanges projecting horizontally from opposite sides of said intermediate section.

X 27. A combination as claimed in claim 24, wherein said vertical length is one of a pair of vertical lengths of lumber, said vertical flange extends between said vertical lengths and said vertical lengths each having a lower end in abutment with said intermediate section.

Claims 29 - 46 (new):

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 29. A building component, comprising a plurality of lengths of lumber connected together to form a rectangular frame around an opening, a foam material provided in said opening, a reinforcement skin of solidified composite material adhering to said lengths of lumber and to said foam material at one side of said frame, said reinforcement skin extending over said lengths of lumber at said one side of said frame and also over said opening, whereby said rectangular frame is reinforced by said reinforcement skin against the action of racking forces on said rectangular frame.

103 30. A building component as claimed in claim 29, wherein said reinforcement skin extends over the entirety of said one side of said frame.

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31. A building component as claimed in claim 29, wherein said reinforcement skin overlaps and adheres to the periphery of said rectangular frame.

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32. A building component as claimed in claim 29, wherein said reinforcement skin overlaps and adheres to an opposite side of said frame.

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33. A building component as claimed in claim 29, wherein said composite material is reinforced with fiber.

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34. A building component as claimed in claim 29, including a fiber mesh reinforcing said composite material.

X 35. A building component as claimed in claim 29, including metal corner connectors connecting said lengths of lumber together at corners of said rectangular frame, said corner connectors having box-shaped sections, said lengths of lumber having ends thereof in abutment with said box-shaped sections, and said corner connectors including flanges extending along said lengths of lumber from said box-shaped sections.

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36. A building component as claimed in claim 34, wherein said flanges extend between pairs of said lengths of lumber.

103 as U.S. Pat.
37. A method of making a building component, which comprises the steps of connecting together a plurality of lengths of lumber to form a rectangular frame extending around an opening, providing a foam material in said opening, applying a coating of liquid composite material to one side of said frame and to said foam material in said opening and allowing said composite

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material to solidify in adherence with said lengths of lumber and said foam material at said one side of said rectangular frame to form a reinforcement skin extending over said lengths of lumber, said opening and said foam material at said one side of said frame so as to reinforce said rectangular frame against racking forces.

38. A method as claimed in claim 37, which includes reinforcing said composite material with a fiber reinforcement.

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39. A method as claimed in claim 37, which includes placing a mesh of fiber reinforcement material over said one side of said rectangular frame and said foam material and subsequently coating said mesh with said coating material during the step of applying said coating material so that said coating material impregnates said mesh.

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40. A method as claimed in claim 37, which includes installing metal corner connectors at corners of said rectangular frame to connect said lengths of lumber to one another, said corner connectors comprising box-shaped sections and flanges extending from said box-shaped sections and said lengths of lumber being located with ends thereof in abutment with said box-shaped sections and with said flanges extending along the lengths of lumber.

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43. A method as claimed in claim 41, wherein the flanges are arranged to extend between pairs of said lengths of lumber.

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A method of making a building component, which comprises the steps of connecting together a plurality of lengths of lumber to form a rectangular frame extending around an opening, injecting a foam material into said opening, applying a coating of liquid composite material

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to one side of said frame and to said foam material in said opening and allowing said composite material to solidify in adherence with said lengths of lumber and said foam material at said one side of said rectangular frame to form a reinforcement skin extending over said lengths of lumber, said opening and said foam material at said one side of said frame so as to reinforce said rectangular frame against racking forces.

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43/45. 107 A method as claimed in claim 37, which includes reinforcing said composite material with a fiber reinforcement.

44/46. 107 A method as claimed in claim 37, which includes placing a mesh of fiber reinforcement material over said one side of said rectangular frame and said foam material and subsequently coating said mesh with said coating material during the step of applying said coating material so that said coating material impregnates said mesh.
